

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

1-2. (Canceled).

3. (Amended) A method of obtaining a motion-compensated image from a motion vector between the motion-compensated image and a plurality of reference images, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining a motion vector MV1 between the motion-compensated image and one reference image R1 of said plurality of reference images at a second set time interval T_2 ;

(b) providing a motion vector MV3 between the reference image R1 and another reference image R2 of said plurality of reference images at a first set time interval T_1 , which is parallel to the motion vector MV1 and different in magnitude from the motion vector MV1 by a value determined by $MV1 \cdot T_1 / T_2$;

(c) obtaining a motion vector MV2 between the motion-compensated image and said another reference image R2 at a third set time interval T_3 , from a [sum] combination of the motion vector MV1 and the motion vector MV3, and calculating respective [pixels] pixel values corresponding to the motion vector MV1 and the motion vector MV2 from pixels [of the reference image R1 and

the reference image R2] at positions corresponding to the motion vector MV1 and the motion vector MV2 and/or from pixels [positioned peripherally of the pixels of the reference image R1 and the reference image R2] at positions corresponding to the motion vector MV1 and the motion vector MV2; and

(d) calculating motion-compensated pixel values from the calculated [pixels of the reference images] respective pixel values calculated in step (c) to obtain the motion-compensated image.

4. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein said motion vector MV1 between the motion-compensated image and said one reference image R1 of said plurality of reference images is calculated from a motion of at least one block unit at said second set time interval, said at least one block unit being a part of said motion-compensated image and comprising a plurality of pixels.

5. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein step (c) comprises calculating said respective pixel values in accordance with a weighted average inversely proportional to distance from pixels of the reference image R1 and the reference image R2.

6. (Amended) A method of determining motion compensation for an input image, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a first motion vector MV1 between the input image and a reference image part r1 of one reference image R1 of a plurality of reference images at a second set time interval T2 between said input image and said one reference image R1;

(b) calculating a second motion vector MV2 between the input image and a reference image part r2 of another reference image R2 of said plurality of reference images at a first set time interval T1 between said input image and said another reference image R2, said second motion vector MV2 being parallel to said first motion vector MV1 and having a magnitude satisfying the relation MV2=MV1 · (T1/T2);

(c) calculating pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 from peripheral pixels at positions corresponding to said first and second motion vectors MV1 and MV2, wherein said reference images R1 and R2 are previous to said input image in a time sequence; and

(d) calculating, motion compensated pixel values of said input image from said calculated pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 to determine said motion compensation.

7. (Previously Presented) A method for determining a motion-compensated image, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a first motion vector MV1 between the motion-compensated image and a reference image part r1 of one reference image R1 of a plurality of reference images at a second set time interval T2 between said motion compensated image and said one reference image R1;

(b) calculating a second motion vector MV2 between the motion-compensated image and a reference image part r2 of another reference image R2 of said plurality of reference images at a first set time interval T1 between said motion compensated image and said another reference image R2, said second motion vector MV2 being parallel to said first motion vector MV1 and having a magnitude satisfying the relation $MV2=MV1 \cdot (T1/T2)$;

(c) calculating pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 from peripheral pixels at positions corresponding to said first and second motion vectors MV1 and MV2, wherein said reference images R1 and R2 are previous to said motion-compensated image in a time sequence; and

(d) calculating motion-compensated pixel values from said calculated pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 to determine said motion-compensated image.

8. (Amended) An apparatus for determining motion compensation for an input image, said apparatus comprising:

(a) means for providing a first motion vector MV1 between the input image and a reference image part r1 of one reference image R1 of a plurality of reference images at a second set time interval T2 between said input image and said one reference image R1;

(b) means for calculating a second motion vector MV2 between the input image and a reference image part r2 of another reference image R2 of said plurality of reference images at a first set time interval T1 between said input image and said another reference image R2, said second motion vector MV2 being parallel to said first motion vector MV1 and having a magnitude satisfying the relation $MV2=MV1 \cdot (T1/T2)$;

(c) means for calculating pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 from peripheral pixels at positions corresponding to said first and second motion vectors MV1 and MV2, wherein said reference images R1 and R2 are previous to said input image in a time sequence; and

(d) means for calculating motion-compensated pixel values of said input image from said calculated pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 to determine said motion compensation.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for determining a motion-compensated image, said apparatus comprising:

(a) means for providing a first motion vector MV1 between the motion-compensated image and a reference image part r1 of one reference image R1 of a plurality of reference images at a second set time interval T2 between said motion compensated image and said one reference image R1;

(b) means for calculating a second motion vector MV2 between the motion-compensated image and a reference image part r2 of another reference image R2 of said plurality of reference images at a first set time interval T1 between said motion compensated image and said another reference image R2, said second motion vector MV2 being parallel to said first motion vector MV1 and having a magnitude satisfying the relation $MV2=MV1 \cdot (T1/T2)$;

(c) means for calculating pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 from peripheral pixels at positions corresponding to said first and second motion vectors MV1 and MV2, wherein said

reference images R1 and R2 are previous to said motion-compensated image in a time sequence; and

(d) means for calculating motion-compensated pixel values from said calculated pixel values of said reference image parts r1 and r2 to determine said motion-compensated image.